



# Core Curriculum Assessment Report 2011\_12

**Department** Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work

**Representative** Allen Furr

**Course Name / number** ANTH1000

**1. AGSC Content Area of Alignment:** Area IV: History, Social and Behavior Sciences

**2. SLO(s) being assessed: Student will..**

SLO 9: Students will understand and appreciate diversity of an within societies of the U.S. and the world.

**3. Assessment Method(s):**

[Explain how assessment for the measures associated with this SLO - not grading for the course as a whole - was conducted. You may cut/paste rubrics for inclusion here, identify faculty reviewing committees, or identify specific kinds of test questions important to your method. Is this the method you initially planned to use? Provide a separate paragraph for each method].

Pre- and post-test questions were administered to students in two sections of ANTH 1000 and a sample of 4 lab exercises were examined. We used 80% as the threshold for the lab exercises, measuring how many fell above and below that mark.

**4. Findings: What assessment data did each assessment method produce?**

All students improved in their performance on all questions from pre- to post-test. However the extent of improvement was highly variable. It is not possible with the data collected to find trends across the two sections per each question because one section used 27 questions and the other used 20. We were in the process of narrowing down the questions used, and there was a difference between the number. In the sample of lab exercises examined, 87% scored above 80% on lab 1, 90% scored above 80% on lab 2, 77% scored above 80% on lab 3 and 80% scored above 80% on lab 4.

**5. How did you (or will you) use the findings for improvement?**

[What questions / issues / concerns did your data raise for the faculty teaching the course? What discussion did the faculty have about the findings? What future actions to improve student attainment of this outcome will the department / program take as a result of this analysis?]

We are now using 20 questions for all sections and are providing the pre- and post-test questions to adjuncts. We had a very small sample size of lab exercises because most of them were returned to students during the semester. We are now switching to Canvas and doing all lab answer sheets online. That will enable collection of a large sample next year. Generally the success rate is very good so we are not proposing any improvements to the labs. We do want to create new exercises when time permits faculty to do so

**6. Additional Comments:**

[What else would you like the Committee to know about your assessment of this course or plans for the future?]

**7. Committee Comments**

Mean of rubric score = 2.18 (out of 4) It seems more as if they have not gotten the assessment method in a constant format to allow for detailed evaluation. It appears that the ANTH 1000 assessments are slowly improving, but without more information on questions used, sampling procedures, and linkage to SLO 9, etc. we cannot tell what we are measuring or if students are meeting the SLO goals. From the narrative, it would appear that the problems encountered with the assessment methods are the main factor driving revision of the the assessment, rather than the findings influencing the revision of pedagogical practice. However, it is a revision to the pedagogy to adjust the assessment methods.